



Policy Date: September 2020

Children are actively encouraged to participate in messy play activities. Messy play activities are linked to the EYFS and promote children's creative and sensory development.

Purpose of Messy Play

- The tactile experience gained during messy play helps children to experience new and unfamiliar textures in a fun and exciting way.
- Sensory experiences make an enormous contribution to children's cognitive and creative development.
- It fosters curiosity, imagination, and exploration.,
- Develops communication and language skills through the expression of feelings, thoughts, and findings.

Messy Play Materials

Below are examples of resources that may be used: -

- Sand
- Water
- Paint
- Cornflour
- Flour
- Playdough
- Shaving foam
- Jelly
- Custard
- Pasta
- Mud

Implementation

- Mess play activities are risk assessed and supervised. Utensils and other equipment used during activities are regularly cleaned and dietary requirements, allergies, culture, and religion are taken into consideration when planning messy play.

- Activities involving messy play are planned so they are age appropriate and related to the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).
- When participating in messy play children will be encouraged to wear an apron but they will not be forced to do so.
- Parents/carers are asked to send their child in clothes that they do not mind getting dirty as through the children's natural play they will get stained.

Note: Clothes will get discoloured, stained and potentially ruined.

- Parents/carers are asked to provide spare clothes in a bag to enable us to change children should they get wet or dirty.